

The Bronze Tablet

VOL. 32, No. 4

April, 1966

GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY

APRIL 20th

8 P.M.

Valour Road Memorial Branch

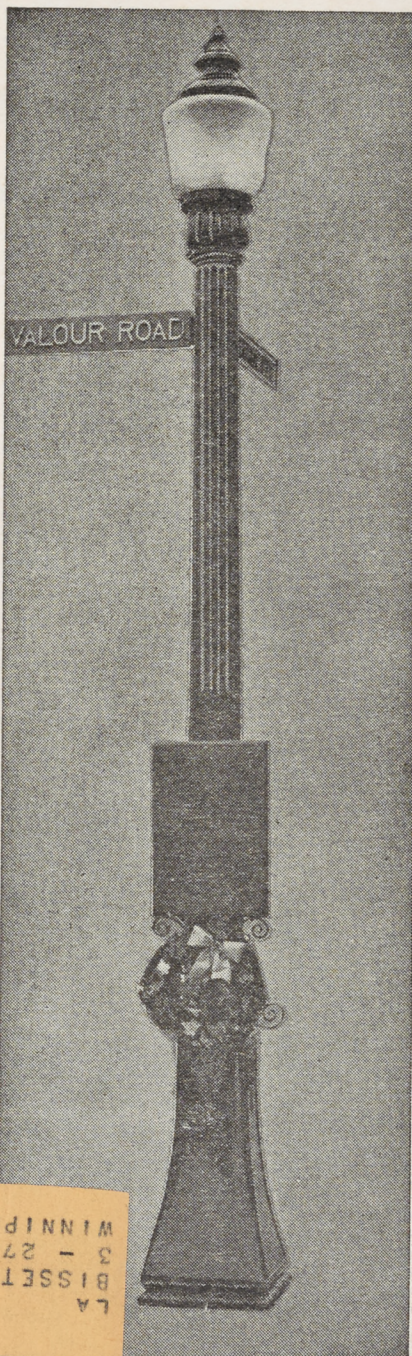
Manitoba



No. 101

ROYAL CANADIAN

Service — Sacrifice



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THE BRONZE TABLET

Published By

Valour Road Memorial Branch

Manitoba



No. 101

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

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The Time?

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The Place?

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"FIFTY YEARS AGO" "April 1916—April 1966"

On April 16th 1916, nine veterans who were early arrivals home from the fighting still being waged in France, met together in the Grange Hotel on Lombard Avenue. This meeting resulted in the formation a few months later of the first branch of the Great War Veterans Association, being formed in Canada. Among the nine pioneers of Canada's First War Veterans movement, were two Life Members of Valour Road Branch, namely, J. W. (Jimmy) Vaughan who served with the Princess Pats, and whose name appears on the original Charter of the G.W.V.A. and H. C. (Henry) Hall, who served with the 10th Canadian Infantry Battalion.

Valour Road salutes these two members on this, their 50th Anniversary in the Veteran Movement in Canada.

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MARCH MEETING

Two new members were initiated at the meeting, C. F. Brown and A. Verrier.

The Past Officers Medals were presented to Past President, Cde. Dick Smith, by the District Commander, Cde. Alex McCallum, and to Marg Blanshard and Jack Critchley by Zone Commander Jim Hedley.

Cde. Pinkham reported the passing of Cde. Mat. Bissett, and thanked those who attended the Funeral.

The Auditors reported the books of the Branch were all in order.

A letter was received from the Auxiliary asking the Branch to attend their April 18th meeting.

There was considerable discussion about the operation of the Legion Track Meet, and the manner in which it was run. Cde. McCallum said he would bring the matter before the Council meeting. The Branch in the meantime has sent a letter to command expressing our dissatisfaction.

All Branches in Zone 46 have supported our letter on the suggestion of Veterans Affairs minister Teillet to erect a \$17 million war memorial in Ottawa.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE "66"

We are still appealing to our members to increase membership of the branch, by getting busy working on prospective new members without further delay. Let us see at least four new members on the evening of April 20, our next General Meeting.

Legionnaire Harold Heidrick

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DON'T FORGET!

BRANCH MEMBERS ARE INVITED
TO ATTEND THE LADIES MEETING

MONDAY, APRIL 18 — 8 P.M.

GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20 — 8 P.M.

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VALOUR ROAD'S PRESIDENTS — 1932-1965

The photographs of the twenty five men who held senior office in the branch are displayed in order of precedence on the wall outside the two doors leading into the assembly hall, on the second floor. Full credit and tribute should be paid to the late Comrade George Cole as being responsible for the branch having a complete pictorial record of all its past presidents, for while in office he had the foresight to obtain the photographs of the twelve men who had preceded him as president.

The photographs, all a standard size, were mounted, inscribed with name and year of office, and after being framed, arranged on the wall by Comrade Walter Marat, M.M. Working with Comrade Marat is Comrade Jim Haddow who has the sad duty of placing a small poppy on the lower right hand corner of the photograph of deceased past presidents.

Who were these men who guided the branch in the pre-Second World War years, the war years, the post war years, and could add, the Cold War years? We are proud and fortunate in having a unique memorial to them in our pictorial record, but apart from the knowledge that they held office during the years inscribed below their photo-

graphs, little or nothing is known, especially by our younger members, regarding our senior past presidents, what branch of the service or what unit were they connected with and their occupation in civil life.

With the objective in mind of informing members of the events and achievement attained during the terms of office of our twenty-five past presidents, a series of articles will appear, not as a biography, but rather a summary of each of these means achievements.

Many of these concerned, after serving in the chair became active in higher than branch level activities in the Legion. Some held office and received honors and awards from District and Provincial Commands. After much thought and consideration, it was decided only to record their activities and honours and awards they received for their services at branch level, with the following exceptions: The Canadian Legion War Services Inc., the Canadian Legion War Service Artists (The Branch Concert Party, augmented by other artists and operating under a new name) and the Valour Road Legion Community Centre Ltd. Ten past presidents, now deceased, whose photographs are graced with a poppy are marked with an asterisk.*

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EVERYONE WELCOME

VALOUR ROAD'S FIRST PRESIDENT

W. E. C. Hurlburt* 1932 - 1933

When Bill Hurlburt was elected president at a meeting held in the club rooms of The Imperial Veterans in Canada, then located at 183 McDermot Avenue, it was not as president of a Legion branch, but of a group of 13 veterans of which two were women, who had met on the evening of September 13th, 1932 with the objective of forming a Legion branch in the westend of the city. He had served in the Lord Strathcona Horse as a trooper, and apart from holding membership in Deer Lodge Branch, he had no previous executive or committee Legion experience, but did have much experience in other organizations. Employed in the advertising department of the T. Eaton Company, he was the editor of "Contacts", the company staff magazine.

Before adjournment the group arrived at the decision that a branch be formed and a charter applied for. The name suggested was "Assiniboine Memorial" but at a meeting held three weeks later it was changed to Valour Road Memorial. Much was accomplished in organizing and attracting new members during the three months before a charter was granted. A special meeting was held at the Canadian National Institute of the Blind on the evening of December 12th, 1932, and the late Major General H. D. B. Ketchen, C.B., C.M.G., (the father of Comrade A. C. Ketchen) presented the charter to the Valour Road Memorial Branch, Manitoba and N. W. Ontario No. 101. The first annual meeting and election of officers held on March 16th, 1933 returned Bill Hurl-

burt as president and he held office until December of that year.

The events and achievements during Bill Hurlburt's term were as follows: The formation of the branch, the first church parade followed by the annual ceremony at the Bronze Tablet on the corner of Valour Road and Portage Avenue, and the adoption and wearing a distinctive Legion wedge cap (The first branch in Winnipeg to do so).

Finance was a problem in 1932 and '33, and an effort to obtain funds from members apart from dues was introduced as the "Individual Effort Drive", and every member (those who were fortunate to be employed during the depression) pledged themselves to raise the sum of \$500.00. Three hundred and fifty dollars were raised by their effort.

A Ladies' Auxiliary was formed in October 1932 and the ladies presented the Branch with its first colour, which is now deposited at St. Patrick's Anglican Church on Valour Road. The first Bronze Tablet in the form of a year book was published, and the presentation to the branch of a canvas painting, "A Field in Flanders," by the late Comrade Jack Fitzgerald, M.B.E., (Charter and Life Member). The painting was his own creation and is still used as the background for all initiation ceremonies and special branch functions. Bill Hurlburt became inactive in the branch within a few years after vacating the chair and resigned due to other pressure on his time. He passed away on January 3rd, 1960. The next issue of the B. T. will cover the period 1934-1936 when Ernest Flexman was president.

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NEXT AUXILIARY
GENERAL MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 18th
at 8 p.m.

LADIES AUXILIARY

A number of members were missing from the March meeting as they had been bitten by the flu bug. Mrs. R. G. Gillam expressed the hope that they and all our shutin members would soon be well and able to join us at our April Meeting.

The President, Mrs. R. G. Gillam and the Recording Secretary, Mrs. A. Schroeder were appointed delegates to the District Rally on April 30th at 2 p.m. in Valour Road Hall. If you plan on attending, please contact Mrs. Gillam SP 2-6760 as soon as possible. You can purchase your tickets at \$1.50 at the April Meeting.

Mrs. D. A. Tedford thanked the ladies who worked at the Red River Relays. Four thousand students participated in the Relays. A Social was held on March 25th in the Elmwood Legion Clubrooms for all those who had assisted at the Indoor Track Meets over the past 3 months.

You will be pleased to know that we are continuing with All Occasion Cards under the convenorship of Mrs. R. W. Dent. A good selection will be on hand at all meetings.

Mrs. Fred Foxon made a request for feathered hats for work with retarded

children. The children use the feathers to cover birds etc., as part of their therapy. If you are able to help, please bring your hat feathers to the next meeting.

Volunteers are needed for canvassing for the Cancer Society. If you are interested in this worthwhile work and are able to help, please phone SP 5-4449.

Our best wishes go to Mrs. M. G. Reavens and Mrs. A. F. Scribner who are leaving Winnipeg to take up residence at the Coast.

We are now the owners of four dozen forks obtained with our Canada Packers labels. Keep the labels coming in ladies.

Deer Lodge Hospital library is in need of pocket novels. Mrs. R. J. Hart will be pleased to receive all you can bring.

After the close of our Meeting, we were entertained by several members modelling their Irish Hats. Our judges had a difficult time awarding the prizes as all the hats were outstanding. Prizes were awarded to Mrs. Fred Foxon, Mrs. R. T. Huchon and Mrs. J. A. Smith for their efforts.

Branch members are to be our guests at our April 18th Meeting. Be sure to attend as they are providing the entertainment.

CONSIDERATE CON

"How long are you in for?" the convict asked his new cellmate.

"Seventy-five years," came the answer.

"You take the bunk near the door. I'm in for 99."

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TEN WAYS TO KILL AN ORGANIZATION

1. Don't come to the meetings.
2. If you do come, come late.
3. If the weather doesn't suit you, don't think of coming.
4. If you attend a meeting find fault with the work of the officers and other members, never yourself.
5. Never accept an office. It's much easier to criticize than to do things.
6. Nevertheless feel hurt if you are not appointed on the committee meetings, or hold the highest office.
7. If asked by the chairman to give your honest opinion on some matter tell them you have nothing to say. Then after the meeting tell everyone how things should have been done, beefing all the time you are talking.
8. Do nothing more than absolutely necessary, but when members roll up their sleeves willingly, unselfishly, use their ability to help matters along, say that the club is run by a "Gang".
9. Hold back your payment in full for membership (dues), as long as you can get away with it.
10. Don't bother about getting new members. Let someone else do it, and you take the credit.

"I heard some terrible language as I was passing your house this morning," said Mrs. Brown.

"It was my husband," replied Mrs. Green. "He was late for church and couldn't find his prayer book."

VIMY DINNER 1966

As in most years past, the 1966 Vimy Dinner was well organized and carried out. Our guest speaker, Cde. Hon. R. D. Smellie, Q.C., as with most of our speakers, was excellent and was very well received. Winnipeg's Mayor, Cde. Steve Juba, made his first appearance at a Vimy Dinner.

This year, we tried a new caterer, Chapman Catering. I think he did a very good job, and an efficient one also.

Attendance at this years dinner was approximately the same as 1965, which indicates a slowdown in the dropout, mostly due to the deaths of W.W. 1 veterans. The committee should realize a small profit on this year's dinner.

For the first time in several years, we had representatives of the Navy, Air Force and War Amputations present, to grace our head table.

Cde. Bill Clay and his committee are to be congratulated on a "good show".

65 CLUB

The Club program started on April 7, and will continue until May 12th. They will consist of Shuffleboard, Penny Bingo, and Whist, to which ladies are invited. Crib will be held one day, and a trip is being arranged for the men. The Shuffleboard, introduced in March has proved to be very popular.

The Club functioned with good attendance even during the extremely cold days in February and March.

Sign on a gas station out on the prairies: "Buzz twice for night service. Then keep your shirt on while I get my pants on."

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GARDEN OF RESOLUTIONS

In our good garden we have planted five rows of peas: preparedness, promptness, perseverance, politeness and prayer.

Next to them we planted three rows of squash: squash gossip, squash unreasonable criticism, and squash indifference.

Then we put in five rows of lettuce: let us be faithful, let us be unselfish, let us be loyal, let us be truthful, let us love one another.

And of course, no garden is complete without turnips, and ours have four rows: turn up for meetings, turn up with a smile, turn up with a new idea, and turn up with determination.

(Author Unknown.)

After several hours of fishing, the little boy threw down his pole and cried, "I quit."

"What's the matter?" his father asked.

"Nothing," said the child, "except I can't seem to get waited on."

★

Tenderfoot: "How can I tell mushrooms from toadstools?"

Second Class Scout: "Eat some before you go to bed. If you wake up the next morning, they're mushrooms."

★

"These are especially strong shirts, madam. They simply laugh at the laundry."

"I know that kind: they came back with their sides split."



LEST WE FORGET

†

Sgt. Matthew Bisset
874849

184th and 78th Battalions W.W.1
H 26446

Fort Garry Horse W.W.2
Died March 10th, 1966
Buried March 14th, 1966
Morden, Manitoba
Aged 67 years

William N. Dixon
229394

61st and 44th Battalions
Died March 29th, 1966
Buried April 1st, 1966
Brookside Cemetery
Aged 86 years.

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— HUMOR —

The girl was very rich and the young man was poor but honest. She liked him but that was all, and he knew it. One night he had been a little more tender than usual.

"You are very rich," he ventured.

"Yes," she replied frankly. "I am worth one million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars."

"And I am poor."

"Yes."

"Will you marry me?"

"No."

"I thought you wouldn't."

"Then why did you ask me?"

"Oh just to see how a man feels when

he loses one million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars."

★

Two golfers were annoyed by an unusually slow twosome in front. One of the offending couple dawdled on the fairway while his companion searched industriously in the rough.

At long last, one of the pair waiting on the tee shouted indignantly, "Why don't you help your friend find his ball?"

"Oh, he's got his ball," the man replied blandly. "He's looking for his club."

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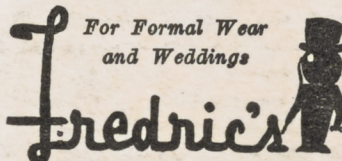
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